



Broadcast
Educational
Media
Commission

**Finance Committee
Broadcast Educational Media Commission**

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday October 4, 2022 at 1:00 PM
2470 North Star Road, Columbus, OH 43221

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Minutes of November 03, 2021**
- III. September 2022 Financial Statement**
- IV. Analysis of FY 22 Subsidy Spending by Ohio Broadcasters**
- V. FY 24 – 25 Operating Budget Proposals: BEMC, The Ohio Channel, The Statehouse News Bureau & Ohio Public Broadcast Affiliates / Budget Language for Multimedia**
- VI. WYSO – Capital Project: \$300,000**
- VII. Public Broadcast Affiliates Capital Project release**
- VIII. ECOESC new agreement for FY 23**
- IX. Easement for WNEO Tower in Salem**
- X. Adjournment**



**Broadcast Educational Media Commission Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
2470 North Star Road, Columbus, OH, 43221
October 4, 2022**

- I. **Call to Order:** At 1:00 p.m., Mr. See opened the meeting of the Broadcast Educational Media Commission Finance Committee.

- A. **Roll Call:** At 1:00 p.m., roll call was conducted by Mrs. Gage.

Members Present:

Interim Chairman Charles See

Commissioner Matt Dole

(Third seat vacant form term-limit for DR. Jan Osborn)

Also Present in the Meeting:

Executive Director Geoffrey A. Phillips

Mark Jividen, Chairman of the Ohio Radio Reading Services Alliance;

David Carwile, Administrator of Ohio Educational Television Stations, Inc;

and Susan Kratzer, Hannah News

Also Present Virtually:

Laura Bryson, Chief Information Officer;

Craig Stevenson, Chief of Engineering and Broadcast Operations Officer;

Alina Gage, Chief Financial Officer;

David Watzek, Inventory Specialist & Facility Coordinator

and Mark Brewer, General Manager WOUB

B. **Commission Action Items**

Resolution 23-03: Approval of November 3, 2021 Minutes: 1:01 p.m. –Mr. Dole moved for approval of the November 3, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. See seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

II. **Financial Statement**

- A. Mrs. Gage provided a review of the September 2022 financial report. BEMC is on-track for Fiscal Year 2023 spending. Projects are slated to spend the remaining FY23 operating funds. The first payment of FY23 subsidy payments were entered into the accounting system and funds will begin arriving at stations as soon as the end of the week.

III. **FY22 Subsidy Spending Analysis**

- A. Mrs. Gage presented charts showing the data reported by stations on FY22 subsidy spending. Many of the charts are similar to the previous year. Slides on Radio Reading Service Reported Average Weekly Production Hours, Subsidy Spend by Type, Funding Sources, and Multi-Media Project Type were discussed in more detail, as those saw the most distinct changes (available at broadcast.ohio.gov).

IV. **FY24-25 Operating Budget Proposal**

- A. Executive Director Phillips introduced the FY24-25 proposed operating budget. OBM has a new budget portal and BEMC submission is due 10/14/2022. A one-page overview was shared (available at broadcast.ohio.gov), and he listed the amounts requested for each Asset Line Item and the justification for increases.
1. BEMC is asking for 4.87% increase from FY23 to pay for expected utility increases, negotiated salary increases, aging facility issues, and others.
 2. Statehouse News Bureau is asking for 17% increase over FY23 to fund a new position.
 3. Ohio Government Telecommunications (The Ohio Channel) is asking for 13% over FY23 to support additional staff and media storage.
 4. Ohio Public Broadcasters are asking for 8.7% increase over FY23 to offset utility costs and COVID's continuing impact on underwriting.
 - i. Mr. Dole asked if the Public Broadcasters request was created in conjunction with the member stations. Ex. Dir. Phillips responded it was created solely by the stations under the leaders of the three alliances.

Resolution 23-04: Motion to Recommend FY24-25 Operating Request to Commission:

1:16 p.m. –Mr. Dole moved to recommend to the commission at the 10/06/2022 meeting BEMC's FY24-25 operating budget proposal and authorize the Executive Director to make any adjustments as necessary to meet the OBM submission requirements. Mr. See seconded. Motion passed via unanimous roll call vote.

V. **WYSO Community Project**

- A. Executive Director Phillips detailed the WYSO community project appropriated in capital bill HB110. He explained it was in support of a new facility being remodeled and expanded and stated it was the only BEMC project in the bill without commission review. Funds were submitted to the Controlling Board but are not yet released pending commission approval.

Resolution 23-05: Motion to Authorize Executive Director to Sign Documents:

1:18 p.m. –Mr. See moved to recommend to the Commission to authorize Ex. Dir. Phillips to sign documents necessary to release capital funds to WYSO. Mr. Dole seconded. Motion passed via unanimous roll call vote.

VI. **Public Broadcasting Affiliates Capital Project Release**

A. Executive Director Phillips provided a status update on release of capital funds for the \$2.091m public TV/Radio project package. The Controlling Board met on Monday, 10/03/2022, and the item was approved. Documents will be sent to the stations to begin release of funds.

VII. **FY23 ECOESC Agreement**

A. Executive Director Phillips introduced the new space sharing agreement with East Central Ohio Educational Service Center (ECOESC) beginning in FY23. Request was made to downsize amount of space sub-used at the BEMC facility.

Resolution 23-06: Motion to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Revised Space Sharing Agreement:

1:20 p.m. –Mr. Dole moved to recommend to the Commission to authorize the Executive Director issue and sign a revised space sharing agreement with ECOESC. Mr. See seconded. Motion passed via unanimous roll call vote.

VIII. **Easement for WNEO Tower in Salem**

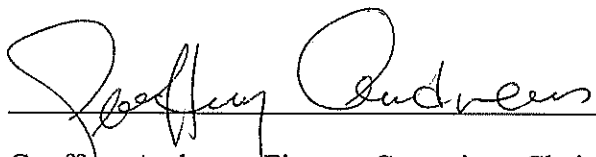
A. Executive Director Phillips informed the committee of details regarding the easement in Salem, OH for the WNEO tower. The tower was authorized for use in northeast Ohio public media and the easement for electricity is up for renewal. Since the state retains the easement, BEMC is required to sign as the agency of record along with DAS and utility supplier.

Resolution 23-07: Motion to Authorize the Executive Director to Sign Documents for the Northeast Tower Easement:

1:22 p.m. –Mr. See moved to recommend to the Commission to authorize the Executive Director to sign documents related to the easement of a tower site in northeast Ohio. Mr. Dole seconded. Motion passed via unanimous roll call vote.

IX. **Adjournment**

Resolution 23-08: Motion for Adjournment: 1:24 p.m. –Mr. See moved to adjourn. Mr. Dole seconded. The adjournment motion passed via unanimous voice vote.



Geoffrey Andrews, Finance Committee Chairman
Broadcast Educational Media Commission

5-11-23

Date